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**Unified Messaging Server and Method Bridges Multimedia Messaging Service  
Functions with Legacy Handsets**

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**Abstract**

15 A messaging server with enhanced multimedia services (MMS) support enables legacy  
handsets not enabled with MMS capability to transmit voice messages to MMS enabled  
handsets where the message is delivered to the latter handset using an MMS communication  
mode from the messaging server. Also, the messaging server supports the receipt and storage  
of a multimedia message, and the subsequent delivery of at least portions of the multimedia  
message to a non-MMS enabled handset by using a communication mode compatible with  
20 the non-MMS enabled handset.